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DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 16, 2004  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert B. Chaffee  
Serial No: Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: Herewith  
For: Valve for Inflatable Objects

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case.

No fee or certification is required.

**PART II: Information Cited**

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

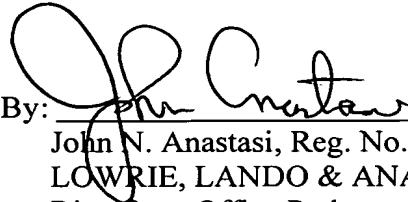
By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Robert B. Chaffee, Applicant*

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Docket No. C0852-703122

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|---|--|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b><br><b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> |  |    | APPLICATION NO.: Not Yet Assigned | ATTY. DOCKET NO.: C0852-703122     |  |
|   |  |    | FILING DATE: Herewith             | CONFIRMATION NO.: Not Yet Assigned |  |
|   |  |    | APPLICANT: Robert B. Chaffee      |                                    |  |
|   |  |    | GROUP ART UNIT: Not Yet Assigned  | EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned         |  |
| Sheet   |  | of |                                   |                                    |  |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner's Initials | Cite No. | U.S. Patent Document |           | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY |
|---------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|---|---|
|                     |          | Number               | Kind Code |   |   |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner's Initials | Cite No. | Foreign Patent Document |         |           | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document<br>(not necessary) | Date of Publication of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Translation (Y/N) |
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|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. 10/328,406, filed December 23, 2002, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).